

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 OES-03 NASA-01 L-03 ACDA-05

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01

SP-02 TRSE-00 AID-05 /057 R

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OES/APT/SA:RGMORRIS (SUBS)

NASA:MR. FRUTKIN

S/S -FVORTIZ

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P 032221Z JUL 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 158065

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NASA, PFOR, US, MA

SUBJECT: NASA STATION NEGOTIATIONS

REFS: A)TANANARIVE 1123; B) TANANARIVE 1124; C)TANANARIVE
1125; D) TANANARIVE 1164.

1. DEPT AND NASA BELIEVE CHARGE HANDLED SITUATION WELL IN
RECENT DISCUSSION WITH RATSIRAKA. WHILE WE NOT OVERLY
OPTIMISTIC RE HIS REACTION, YOU SHOULD REITERATE IN YOUR
NEXT MEETING WITH HIM THAT NASA UNABLE TO PAY BACK RENT OF
DOLS 10 MILLION AND THAT NO OTHER USG FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE
FOR RENTAL PAYMENTS.

2. YOU SHOULD MAKE FOLLOWING SPECIFIC POINTS:

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A) CHARGE SHOULD RESTATE TO GOMR BENEFITS ACCRUING TO

MADAGASCAR FROM CONTINUED OPERATIONS OF STATION INCLUDING:

1) TELECOMMUNICATIONS FEES; 2) TECHNICAL TRAINING OF
MALAGASY CITIZENS; 3) EMPLOYMENT OF MALAGASY CITIZENS;
4)OFFER OF
DOLS 100,000 PER YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 1973 5) OFFER
TO CONTRACT WITH PTT TO OPERATE STATION. ALSO, USG HAS
BEEN HELPFUL THROUGH PROVISION OF ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE,
E.G. RAILROAD LOAN AND PL-480 OFFER.

B) CHARGE SHOULD ALSO REITERATE THAT STATION IS FOR
CIVILIAN PROGRAMS AND IS NOT USED FOR STRATEGIC PURPOSES.

C) WE WOULD LIKE GOMR TO UNDERSTAND THAT STATION IN
MADAGASCAR IS NOT RPT NOT ABSOLUTE NASA REQUIREMENT AND
THAT NASA HAS RECOURSE TO OTHER ALTERNATIVES, WHICH IT
IS PREPARED TO USE IF NECESSARY.

D) HOWEVER, BOTH USG AND NASA HAVE BEEN PLEASED WITH
ASSOCIATION WITH MALAGASY RE NASA STATION AND WOULD REGRET
TERMINATION OF SIGNIFICANT ASPECT OF US-GOMR BILATERAL
RELATIONSHIP. THEREFORE, USG HOPES GOMR WILL RECONSIDER
ITS POSITION, SINCE WE BELIEVE EXISTENCE OF STATION HAS
BEEN ADVANTAGEOUS TO BOTH COUNTRIES AND COULD BE EVEN
MORE ADVANTAGEOUS TO MADAGASCAR IN FUTURE.

3. FOREGOING REFLECTS DEPT'S. CONSIDERATION OF REF D. SISCO

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